

Data Quality Training

NDE's next Strategic Data Quality training

(<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/docs/DQbrochure.pdf>) will be held Thursday, October 16 in North Platte (ESU 16). Contact Melissa Engel (mengel@esu16.org or 308-284-8481) to reserve a spot.

NSSRS

The "Fall Membership Assurance Report" will no longer be required. However, a new "Special Education Assurance Report" will need to be printed, signed and mailed to the Department once in the fall and once at year-end.

Now available on the "Verification Reports" page of the NSSRS Validation website:

- Verification reports for Special Education Snapshot.
- School and District-wide "Average Daily Attendance and Average Daily Membership" verification reports now include Days In Session and calculated ADA and ADM values.
- New "Student Summary Attendance Lookup" tool that enables listing individual Student Summary Attendance records by specific Locations and Grades.

Please be advised that the NSSRS Template Calendar

(<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Calendar.htm>) has been updated.

No Shows

NDE is preparing guidance for completers/drop-out/transfers reporting that will be done during the Nov. 3-12 window. We are providing the following in response to many questions now about students who transfer during the summer (a.k.a. no-shows):

If a student completed the 2007-2008 school year and fails to enroll by the last Friday in September 2008 they need to be reported as one of the following:

1) Transferred out of the district in the summer

Include these students in the Student template and the School Enrollment template with an enrollment code "Transferred Out" (201). This MAY be the only school enrollment record for these students in the 2008-2009 school year. Do NOT include in student snapshot.

2) Status unknown

Include these students in the Student template and School Enrollment Template with enrollment code "Not Enrolled, Eligible to Return" (205) through the entire 2008-2009 school year until they fail to enroll by the last Friday in September 2009. At that time the enrollment code will be changed to "Dropout" (202).

If during the school year the student's status is resolved (ie transfer out, or completer), record the appropriate enrollment code. The Date of Activity and Enrollment Date should be set as of the date the status became effective in THIS school year (7/1/2008-6/30/2009).

NeSA – Nebraska State Accountability - RFP NDE 08-449-01

Earlier, the Nebraska Department of Education had announced an intent to contract pending State Board approval. The State Board did not approve a vendor for the new NeSA (Nebraska Accountability System) at today's meeting. A revised Request for Proposals will be posted by October 10, 2008 with a new due date of November 7, 2008. It is the intent of the Department of Education that the basic components of the original RFP remain the same with some adjustments. The revised RFP has a shortened timeline in order to meet established State and Federal timelines.

NDE Received this Request to Share Information

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy will be hosting a regional Random Student Drug Testing Summit in 2008. Random student drug testing is a valuable prevention strategy that can help deter children from initiating drug use. It can also help identify children who have just started using drugs as well as children who have a dependency so that they may be referred to treatment. Student drug testing programs are developed by the schools in which they are implemented so that the program is specifically tailored to the needs of the community. All random student drug testing programs are designed to act as deterrent and are not by format or nature punitive.

The Random Student Drug Testing Summit will address relevant legal and program development issues and serve as an introduction for schools that would like to learn more about student drug testing. Summit attendees will also learn about the newly created Student Drug Testing Institute. Launched in September, the SDT Institute is designed to assist schools and school districts in implementing drug testing programs and to provide technical assistance for existing programs. Summit dates and locations are as follows:

October 21, 2008 – Omaha, Nebraska

Again, there is no cost to attend the summits but, because space is limited, we encourage you to register as soon as possible at <http://summits.csrincorporated.com> or send an email to summits@csrincorporated.com.

On behalf of ONDCP and CSR, Incorporated, I would like to extend our sincerest appreciation for any assistance you may be able to provide in spreading the word about this important event.

Sincerely,

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